



# HE Calling

*1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. 5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." 8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." Matthew 28:1-10 NIV*

If there was a time for people who follow Christ to pray, repent, and fast, it is now. I was reminded this morning, in an article that I read, that the church of Jesus Christ has weathered all types of plagues, droughts, wars, and natural calamities throughout the centuries. The seemingly overwhelming movement of this virus is affecting virtually every part of our nation and our world. Yet, in the midst of the different challenges that we are facing, my heart rests on the sure and certain knowledge that our heavenly Father loves us, that the authority Jesus has given us is still available to us and that God the Holy Spirit is working in people's hearts and lives in ways to assist us in re-prioritizing what truly is important in our lives.

I'd like to share with you or events for Holy Week and other important items that could be a blessing to you and your family this coming week:

1. Please continue to watch or listen to our Traditional and Epic worship services on Sunday morning. I am so grateful for Mike Dee's, Bob Pfau, Chris Hopper and the Epic band for the work that they are doing to provide us with wonderful worship experiences. Pastor John and I are blessed to welcome Pastor Randal Richards and the Asbury United Methodist Church for a joint worship experience at 11:05.
2. Our Holy Week speakers have all agreed to record their talks and we will be uploading them each day by noon for you to watch and see how they respond to these two questions from Luke 23:32-43:
3. How do you see God's forgiveness expressed in this text?
4. What does it mean when Jesus says to the man that today you will be with me in Paradise?
5. On Good Friday, April 10th I invite you to do two things: One, place a cross in your window or in your yard to remind us of the atoning work that Jesus of Nazareth did for us and the world. Second, will you consider watching the "Passion of the Christ" on Good Friday? For many of us who watched Mel Gibson's portrayal of the Passion of Christ, it was a vivid expression of what Christ's endured for you and me and the world.
6. On Good Saturday, Pastor John, Pastor Randal Richards and myself invite you to drive through the Colvert Ministry Center, under the awning, and pick up your blessed communion elements and Easter Eggs for your children from 12-2pm. We will hand these to you in your car. The communion elements are individually packaged. We will all share Holy Communion on Easter Sunday!
7. Please know that your prayers, your financial support, and your phone calls that you are providing are making a huge difference for our congregation.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

We miss you and your children, but we are praying that you are all staying healthy and enjoying this time to pour into your children. Here is what we have going on in the month of April!

### Facebook:

For the most up to date information during this time please follow and like our Facebook pages.

- If you have a nursery child ages birth through PreK the page is titled "FUMC Nursery" search @fumcnursery to find the page easily.

- If you have an elementary child kindergarten- 5th grade the page is titled "FUMC Kids" search @fumckidsardmore to find the page easily.

### Easter Egg Hunt:

The Easter egg hunt has been cancelled. Instead we have planned an Easter egg pick up on Saturday, April 11th from 12:00-2:00pm at the Colvert Ministry drive through. You will stay in your car as we pass out one bag per child of prepared Easter eggs. We would love to see your kids sweet faces hunting their eggs at home on social media use #FUMCEaster2020.

### Holy Week Devotional:

We will be posting a daily family devotional for Holy Week. Please see our Facebook pages each day of Holy Week to find a quick and easy way to connect with your children during this special week starting on Palm Sunday, April 5th.

### Easter Jam:

We are excited to offer a fun family digital Easter worship experience called Easter Jam. This will be an awesome way to connect with your entire family on Easter Sunday. We will post the Easter Jam video and parent guide on Easter Sunday, April 12th at 1:00pm on our Facebook pages.

There are two fun family games here is what you need before you start:

- 2 peeps or 2 large marshmallows
- Microwave
- Microwavable plate
- Toothpicks
- At least 10 to 20 pairs of socks
- Laundry basket

We hope this gives you another awesome family experience for the end of your Easter celebrations in the afternoon or evening. We want you to end this special day on a high note through Easter Jam!

### Continuation from Page 1

The women went to the tomb and experienced the power of the risen Lord. My prayer for each of you is that as we experience this coming Holy Week and Easter is that Jesus will show up in unexpected ways for you and your family! Please know that you are desperately missed during the week and on Sunday mornings.

He is Risen! David, Ginger, Annie & Josh Daniel

### What We Are Learning in April:

We will post your child's video lesson and parent guide each Sunday morning at 8:00am on our Facebook page.

#### Nursery (birth- PreK)

In our nursery department we are sharing the life-changing truth that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. Our theme this month is "Bloom" and we are planting seeds that we pray will grow and bloom into a faith that is as alive as Jesus!

#### Elementary (kindergarten- 5th grade)

In our elementary department we will be learning about the virtue of humility. What a great virtue for the moment we are living in today by "putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve." The theme is UPSIDE DOWN because Jesus changes everything! I believe we can all agree that everything feels a little upside down during this time but remember our theme...Jesus changes everything. Just like when Jesus came to the Earth He was definitely out of the ordinary. He lived an EXTRAORDINARY life that was completely upside down from the way everyone else was living. He called us to look for the broken parts of people and places and commanded them to be whole and changed. What a great time for us to be able to pause and teach our children how to live in Humility just like Jesus did!

Amy Hopper

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## GLOBAL OUTREACH TEAM UPDATE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During these most unusual times, it becomes ever more important that we continue to serve. This can be challenging in a season of social distancing, but I want to give you a couple options to keep you in the loop and allow you to serve, while being responsible and safe. One option is for our friends and front line workers at Mercy Hospital:

We have a favor to ask of you. We are requesting congregations to send words of encouragement to our staff. They will be shared with the various departments throughout the hospital. They may be emailed to [vicki.rucker@mercy.net](mailto:vicki.rucker@mercy.net) or mailed to Mercy Hospital Ardmore, c/o Pastoral Care, 1011 14th Ave NW, Ardmore, OK 73401. We will share your comments with our coworkers.

Another way you can serve is by staying tuned in with Impact Ardmore. Check them out here <https://www.impactardmore.org> or feel free to stay plugged in with our Missions Facebook Page. Just search "FUMC Missions" to find it. If you have any questions, please reach out to me directly. May the Lord Bless you and Keep you!

In His Grip,  
Pastor John

## SANCTUARY CHOIR OFFERING OF MUSIC EASTER 2020

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today  
written by Charles Wesley in 1739

Christ the Lord is risen today,  
Earth and heaven in chorus say,  
Raise your joys and triumphs high,  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done,  
Fought the fight, the battle won,  
Death in vain forbids him rise,  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious king,  
Where, o death, is now thy sting?  
Once he died our souls to save,  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
Following our exalted head,  
Made like him, like him we rise,  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

During the COVID-19 outbreak, Stephen Ministry are available to provide care via the telephone, rather than in person. Please call the church office or Louise Daniels (580-465-5958) for information.

## ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Hey Church Family!  
The church is currently closed, however if you need anything please call the church!! A staff member will be glad to help you out! I am praying that each of you is well.

Kinzie Ray



## CCDC CHURCH SERVICES Jail Ministry News

*Psalm 46:10*

*Let go of your concerns! Then you will know that I am God. I rule the nations. I rule the earth. Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.*

"Hey Mrs. Kim, Thank you for your Bible studies, it really helps us all, put together in here. We all sit down and do them together. It's such a wonderful feeling. I finally found the peace I've been looking for, for so many years and it's because I sit down and actually get into the Bible. It's March 28 and I've been here 76 days. I found God and I've been blessed every day since. God Bless, AB"

Letters like the one above, are a sweet gift from God. Nuggets of encouragement to the church committed to growing the community of believers, through the sharing of the gospel, to those Jesus loves. For those who are used to running from the past or self-medicating to cover the pain, forced sobriety, sitting down, and being still can seem unbearable. This church has been a conduit for the Holy Spirit to change the spiritual climate in our jail, overcoming a climate of fear that was oppressive, depressive, and suffocating. Because you have openly supported the mission of this ministry by prayer and deed, women and men are able to "sit down and actually get into the Bible". A place once ruled by darkness, has become a beacon of light for those who are lost. The glory of God has overcome the darkness. In being still and letting go of those things that once concerned them, they are free to enjoy "such a wonderful feeling", the peace of God, through Jesus Christ. I pray you are enjoying just such a feeling.

Every Spiritual Blessing, Kim Hunt

**First United Methodist Church**  
501 W Main  
Ardmore, OK 73401

David Daniel, *Senior Pastor*  
John Hollon, *Associate Pastor*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Ardmore, OK  
Permit No. 183

**Sunday Services**  
9:00 am Traditional  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:05 am EPIC

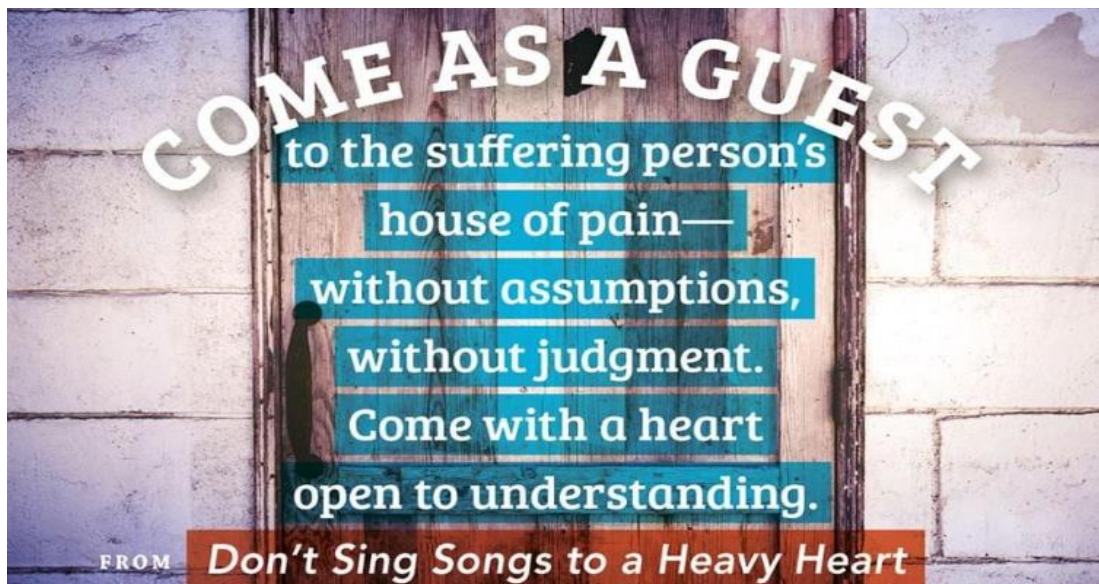
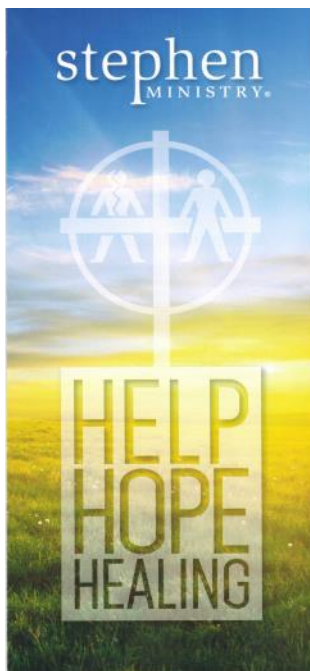
Call or email us: (580) 223-5390 | [info@fumcardmore.com](mailto:info@fumcardmore.com)  
*Televised at 11:00am on CableOne, Channel 56, Broadcast at 9:00am on KVSQ AM*

[www.fumcardmore.com](http://www.fumcardmore.com)

**Prayer Chain**  
Lenny Frank 580-465-7515 [frank.lennylisa@yahoo.com](mailto:frank.lennylisa@yahoo.com)  
Wadell & Sheila Altom 580-223-7272

**Need help?**  
We're here for you ...

Celebrate Recovery  
Stephen Ministry  
Surrendering the Secret  
Prayer Groups  
Small Groups  
Bible Studies



Tell your story to a Stephen Minister.  
Please call Louise Daniels at 580-465-5958 or the church office at 580-223-5390.

# What Legacy will you leave?

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make. With the help of your attorney or financial advisor, you can include language in your Will or Trust specifying a gift to be made to the First United Methodist Church Endowment Fund